

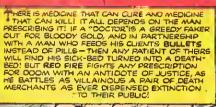






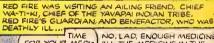
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# RIDE



ALL RIGHT, RED FIRE! IF OUR MEDICINE CAN'T CURE YUH - WE GOT AN-OTHER! ALL RIGHT, LET HIM HAVE IT, OOC!

PURE - CURE MI CURES EVERY DISEASE KNOWN TO AINCLUDING DIPTHER



FOR YOUR MEDI-CINE, FRIEND!

NO, LAD, ENOUGH MEDICINE ALL THE MEDICINE IN THE WORLD CANNOT CURE ME...
I AM SICK UNTO DEATH...
MY TIME HAS COME...













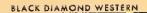






YOU WICKED MEN! YOUR CHILDREN CRY FOR









WHAT'D YA SPEND MY MONEY ON .. EXCEPT YORESELF ? YOU CHIGELIN' SHYSTER!

I SPENT IT ON PUBLICITY! I TRIED TO BUY INFLUENCE! BUT IT OIDN'T WORK! WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?



MY MONEY BACK! GIMME \$5,000 THIS MINUTE - ON THE SPOT YUH! GIMME MY MONEY BACK!

> G...GOOD HEAVENS BOOTS! YOU'VE GONE MAD! THINK, MAN! I'M ONLY A LAWYER! I CAN'T MOVE HEAVEN AND EARTH!



YORE HOWLIN' IN THE WRONG ALLEY, BRADEN! COUNTIN' TO THREE. THEN I'M GOIN' TO DRAW.
IF I CAN'T GIT \$5,000...
I'M GITTIN' SATISFACTION
ONE...TWO...

WAIT, BOOTS! I .. CAN'T DRAW AGAINST YOU! YOU'RE THE FASTEST DRAW IN THE TERRITORY! I ... UH...



FAIR? BRADEN



ALL YUH BUZZARDS WERE WITNESSES! IT NEVER GOT HIS GUN OUTTA FAIR AND SQUARE! HIS HOLSTER! THE MANGY COYOTE! HE MUR DERED BRADEN IN COLD BLOOD!























THEN LISSEN! YOU'LL NEVER MAKE MONEY WITH THIS SHAKE OIL! I'LL EMPTY HALF THIS PIZEN AN' FILL THE BOTTLE WITH LIKKER! NOW TASTE THE





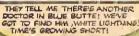
### THAT NIGHT, AT ELOCTS HUGGINS

STULL ... SHIP! HIC: MAY IT CURE ALL THE EVIL'SH IN THE WORLD -ESPECIALLY POVERTY FOR



THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN BLACKVILLE











NO, SIR! I WAS WEAK AND PUNY! SICK AS SIN! THIN AS A LATH! THE DOCTOR GAVE ME UP FOR DEAD! MY FRENDS WERE MEAS-URING ME FUR A COFFIN WHEN A MIRACLE HAPPENED! YESSIR-



THIS HERE IS THE MIRACLE! DR. ZABBO CAN CURE ANYTHING! THIS CURE-ALL MADE ME WHAT I AM TODAY! I'M SO STRONG, I CAN EAT BULLETS!



OKAY! HERE GOES! I'LL EMPTY MY SIXER CHAMBERS ...



AN' EAT THE SLUGS LIKE THEY WAS CANDY! ONLY THEY ARE ANDY-YUH

EATIN' BULLETS! SUCKERS!

GASPE HEY!

PELICIOUS! TAKE YOUR ME, FOLKS! SIMPLY DEE - LICIOUS PLENTY OF MEDICINE HERE! GIVE US A BOTTLE ME, I WANT ONE

SEE YOU A SEC MY CURE-ALL CAN DESTROY THIS MEDICINE DIABETES WITHIN CURE DIABETES! TWENTY-FOUR HOURS! BUT YOU LOOK HALE AND HEARTY, M'LAD!

YOUNG FELLER,

DOCTOR-C...COULD

NO, DOCTOR-IT'S NOT ME - CHIEF WA-TI-KI - HE'S TERRIBLY SICK-HIS TRIBE WILL DO ANYTHING TO CURE HIM! SEE! THEY GAVE ME \$1500 TO PAY FOR A DOCTOR!



LOOKIT ALL THESE DIPLOMAS, AND PRIZES! ZABBO CAN CURE ANYTHIN'! JUST TAKE BACK A WAGONLOAD OF MY MAGIC MEDICINE AN'



ER-SHORE! I'LL EXAMINE HIM IN-SIDE AND OUT-THEN I'LL GIVE HIM THE MEDICINE! SHALL WE GET GOIN!

YES-THE SOONER THE BETTER! THE CHIEF IS VERY SICK! I ONLY HOPE HE IS STILL AUVE WHEN WE GET THERE!



SO LONG, KID! GIVE THE MEDICINE TWELVE I DON'T KNOW, RED FIRE'S BROW IS GREY FOX! HOURS TO WORK! YOU'L CLOUDED JUST HAVE A WITH WORRY FEELING THAT SEE THE CHANGE IT'LL SPEAK! WHAT MAKE IN THE CHIEF ALL IS NOT TROUBLE S WELL! BY MORNING! THE CHIEF'S FAVORITE?





THE FOLLOWING DAY-IN DR. MAN SON'S OFFICE IN BLACKVILLE .. HE'S WORSE THERE'S NO DOUBT THEN OF IT-THIS MEDICINE OR. THAN THAT IS HALF LIQUOR ZABBO RED FIRE! DEADLY TO DIABETICS! LIED HE'S A THIS STUFF UNQUES-MURDERER TO WHAT DID TIONABLY KILLED HE'S HIS BULLET WA-TI-KI! A PHONY! EATING FRIEND LOOK LIKE

> WE'VE GOTTA WORK FAST!

THIS CURE-ALL BUSI-

AND NOBODY'S

NESS IS A GOLD MINE.



AS RED FIRE DESCRIBES "THE BULLET-EATER" ...

WELL, HE'S FIXED HIM-SELF GOOD THIS TIME!

BOOTS HUGGINS! NOW



THAT NIGHT-AT BOOTS HUGGIN'S STILL.

I'M GIVIN' YA THE STRAIGHT

GOODS! THE BLACK DIAMOND

IS OUT TO GIT YUH FUR TWO





### LATER, AT BOOTS HUGGIN'S DISTILLERY ...

SORRY, KID - IT'S YOU YOU HAVEN'T OR US! YOU SHOULDN'T WON YET, IN HAVE SECCED THE SPITE OF YOUR BLACK OLAMOND ON TRICKS! OUR TRAIL! YORE TIN STAR HERD WILL

OUR TRAIL! YORE TIMSTAR HERD WILL
FIND HIMSELF AT
THE END OF
HIS TRAIL!

### MINUTES LATER, AS RED FIRE LOOKS OVER HIS PRISON...

THIS IS AWFUL! IF BLACK DIAMOND AND BLUMPER RIDE INTO AN AMBUSH SECAUSE OF ME... HAW... GUNPOWDER! AND THAT'S THE DISTILLERY SHACK OVER THERE—I'VE GOT... AN IDEA!

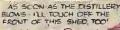


CHUCKING THE POWDER OUT IN A STREAM CONSTANTLY LENGTHENING IT FURTHER ...



#### RED FIRE FINALLY ROLLS THE GUNPOWDER BARREL TOWARD THE DISTILLERY WALL.























MOMENTS LATER-AN ASTONISHED PAIR RODE UP ...

FIOW DOES RED FIRE SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF A SINGLE BUILLET THAT MILLED TWO MEN IN DIFFER-ENT CITTES! YOU MUST SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT — READ THE MEANG. EST RIP-GOORTING. EST RIP-GOORTING.



## BRACK DIAMOND

### MEETS "THE GOLD STRIKE HOAXERS"

THE SETTLING OF THE WEST AMIDST LAW AND ORDER WAS A DIFFICULT PROPOSITION BACK IN THE "OO'S AND THE "BO'S EASTERN CRIMINALS AND SOCIETY'S BLACK SHEEP FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD FOUND'A HAVEN WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI, UNTIL THE COURAGEOUS US. MASSHALL, BOB VALE, IN THE GUISE OF THE BLACK DIAMOND, RODE THE PLAINS WITH HIS SIDEKICK, BUMPER, TO SEEK-CUT THESE UNSAVCRY ELEMENTS, AND BRING PEACE AND JUSTICE TO THE WESTERN PORTICAL OF THE NEW REPUBLIC!

HEY, WHAT IN BLACK DIAMOND! IN INCLED THE BLACK DIAMOND! STAND ONLY, I'LL GIVE YUH A HAND WITH OLD WALRUS LIP!

AMONG THE MORE VICIOUS SEEKERS OFEASY MON-BY WHO INVACED THE WEST IN ISS! WERE LUCIUS DUNNE AND BART MOREND! THEIR CRIME CAREERS WERE DOOMED ON THE NIGHT DUNNE SAT IN ON A POKER GAME IN COLBORO'S ONLY SALOON...



HOLD IT, SAM... WH...WHY, OON'T SEE THAT HOM-RAISE! THAT HOM-BRE'S HIS PARO... DON'T AN' HE'S TOESIN' EVEN KNOW THE TABLE AT CRITTER!

HOLD ON THERE, YOU! I DON'T LIKE GLYS WHO MAKE ACCUSATIONS LIKE THAT! YO'RE JUST SORE CAUSE YUH AIN'T WON A POT YET!





WITH THE LIGHTS SHOT OUT, THE TWO GUNMEN RACED FROM THE SALDON, DROPPING ALL WHO STOOD IN THEIR PATH WITH BLAZING BULLETS...



WHEN I THINK ONLY A HAND OF THE PILE OF FUL! COULDN'T POUGH IN THAT GRAB TOO MUCH LAST POT, WHILE WAS SHOOTIN' LUCKY COULD SPIT! THING THOSE DID YUH GET ANY OF PIECES ARE SO LITTLE MORE

JUH GOTTA GIMME SOME TIME TUH SLEEP COOK UP A NEW GIMMICK! ON IT! COME UP WITH I DON'T LIKE TAKIN' CHANCES SOMETHIN'OR ... LIKE THAT! MY HEY! WHAT'S HIDE'S STILL CAMPFIRE! SORE FROM FEATHERIN' C'MON! WE GOT TWO AGO!

HOWDY, GENTS! CARE TUH JOIN ME IN SOME VITTLES? WHY, THANKS, OLD TIMER! IN SOME WITLEST
AIN'T GOT MUCH...
BUT YORE WELCOME!
BEEN OUT PROSPECT
IN'-RAN OUTTA PROVISIONS, SO I'M
HEADIN' BLACK TUH
STEED'S GAP FER. A NEW STAKE!

MIGHTY HOSPITABLE OF YUH! ME AN' MY PARD HAVEN'T EATEN TONIGHT!

SORRY, I DIDN'T SURE THING, OLD OFFER YOU BOYS! WELL, I GUESS I'LL TURN IN! GOTTA GET AN GUESS TIMER! GUESS WE'LL EARLY START 00 SAME! 1.01 THE MORNIN'

SOMETHIN IN MIND, LUKE! I KIN TELL BY THAT LOOK IN EYES! WHAT

OU GOT

AN EASY WAY TO RAKE IN SOME AND EAST WAY TO MAKE IN SUME
BIG CASH! HEH-HEH... AN 'IT'S
PERFECTLY LEGAL, TOO! THAT
OLD PROSPECTOR FIGURES INTO
IT... BUT HE DON'T KNOW IT... AN'
HE DON'T HAVE TO! LEMME THINK
ABOUT IT SOME MORE, BART!
I'LL TELL YUH IN. THE
MORNIN!





MEANWHILE MANY MILES AWAY WELL, TROUBLE'S COM

GAP! BUT THAT'S A PEACEFUL TOWN DIAMOND! THEY AIN'T HAD TROUBLE

CER EARS

ING, I'M AFRAID, BUMP-OUT ABOUT A COUPLE OF CHEAP, TIN-HORN GAMBLERS ... AND FROM THE TRAIL THEY'VE BEEN TAKING THEY SHOULD BE IN STEED'S GAP SOME TIME NEXT-WEEK! LET'S PITCH CAMP HERE! H RS AR





OKAY, LUKE... THE BIG IDEA? HOW DOES HE FIGURE INTO YORE SET-UP

O'YUH S'POSE WOULD HAPPEN IF HE CAME TEARIN' INTO TOWN YELLIN' ABOUT THE BIGGEST STRIKE IN HISTORY?

BART WHAT

THE TOWN'D GO GOLD EVERYBODY LIGHT OUT TUH MAKE THEIR OWN STRIKE!

RIGHT: BUT THEY'D DO SOMETHIN' ELSE FIRST! THEY'D NEED EQUIPMENT, SHOVELS, DICKS, DANS, CANTEENS AND ALL THAT STUFF! NOW JUST SUPPOSE WE BOUGHT OUT ALL

THAT STUFF AN' THEY HAD TUH COME TUH DOUGH TOGETHER, WEVE GOT CLOSE TO \$175! MESS OF EQUIPMENT



WHYSURE AN WE JACK UP THE PRICE TUH SUIT OURSELVE! WHY WE KIN FORTUNE! THERE'S NO

AW AGINST

HAPPENS WHE

T. RUT WHAT

THEY FIND

HOAX?

USE YORE BRAINS! AS SOON AS WE'RE ALL SOLD OUT, WE VAMOOSE! THAT'S ONE THING THEY AIN'T GONNA FIND OUT SO SOON! LET HAVE YORE THERE'S STEED'S GAP UP

ME MONEY! AHEAD!

HITCHING UP THE TWO CONNVERS STRODE BOLDLY INTO THE GENERAL STORE AND. LOOK, BUD, I

THE WHOLE LOTE B.. BUT OVER A \$100 WORTH OF EQUIPMENT THERE WHAT'RE YUH

ANY QUESTIONS! YORE IN BUSINESS TO SELL THAT STUFF, AIN'T YUH? WE'LL, I'M BUYIN' IT ALL! WITH IT ALL?



WELL, WE'VE GOT EVERY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT WE'VE STILL GOT \$25 LEFT! WHAT

AN' BUY A COUPLE OF RICH NUGGETS FROM THE ASSAYER DON'T AROUSE AROUSE SUSPICION: TE-11 IM YUH WANT JEM FER GOOD LUCK CHARMS OR WATCH FOBS!

TAKE THIS DOUGH



LATE THAT NIGHTLLUKE AND BART WAITED AT THE EDGE OF TOWN FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE OLD PROSPECTOR

I DON'T GET IT ME TUH COME RACIN INTO TOWN TOMORROW MORNIN' AT TENI YELLIN' I HIT PAY-DIRT? WHUT

YEAH! NEVER MIND THAT! ST DO IT! SHOW ACT REAL THESE NUGGETS, ANI PART OF YORE CLAIM! THERE'S CONVIN ENOUGH GRUB TUP

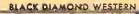
IN', AN' YUH KIN KEEP YUH TILL THEM NUGGETS



SAY/LUKE... SUPPOSE HE SLIPS UP! SUPPOSE HE DOESN'T CONVINCE EVERYBODY THAT THERE'S A STRIKE!

DON'T WORRY! WE'LL BE ON SOON AS HE OPENS HIS MOUTH, WE'LL SUGGEST CELEBRATION, SHOVE A BOTTLE AT HIM, AND GET IM SO PIE-EYED THAT HE'LL REALLY









### MEANWHILE, DOWN THE STREET, THE TWO MEN HAD SET UP THEIR SHOP.

WHY THEM PRICES THEN TAKEYORE ARERIDICULOUS! FIFTEEN BUCKS BUSINESS ELSEWHERE! AN' THOSE PANS THEM'S MY PRICE AIN'T WORTH AN'NO-THATTS WORN'N TWENT BODY'S FORCIN' CENTS! SUY FROM ME WHO'S SHOVEL HANAP NEXT

I GOTTA BUY FROM YUH! YUH!VE GOT THE MENT THERE HEY!

LISTEN

IT'S A

LIED

WILKES

RIGHT! LET'S SEE NOW ... CORRECT!

TUH \$800 IN OUR POCKETS! ABOUT WHY FINDIN TAHT LET'S LIGHT OLD OUTTA HERE GOLD WHILE TH GALOOT LIGHTIN'S GOOD, BART!

SOME TIME LATER.

HEAR

THAT

THE)

QUIT

FOUND

FORGET IT!

WE'RE ALL

AIN'T WE? WE GOT CLOSE

SOLD OUT

NOW CALM DOWN, YOU MEN! I CAN'TARREST WILKES, BECAUSE HE AIN'T COMMITTED NO CRIME! WHY DON'T UH TRY GETTIN YORE MONEY BACK FROM THE MEN WHO

GONE! AINT SEEN HIDE OF IEM SINCE THEY SOLD OUT! SOLD YUH STUFF ?

THEY'RE

GIT OUTTA TH WAY, SHERIFF! WE AIM TO TAKE WILKES AN GIVE IM WHAT

THE ENRAGED MOB QUICKLY SUBDUED THE RELUCTANT SHERIFF, GRABBED THE OLD PROSPECTOR AND DRAGGED HIM TO THE EDGE OF TOWN, AND A WAITING NOOSE...

THAT'S NO REGULAR HANG SAY MOB THERE! IT ... IT'S A THERE'S A DIAMOND LOOK UP LYNCHING! THERE'S NO TRUE JUSTICE WHEN A HEAD! SEEMS AS IF WE'VE LYNCHING PARTY TAKES OVER! COME ON, BUMPER- HAUL IM ARRIVED JUST IN CATCH A OVER HERE! LET'S GO! HANGIN' M TUH ROB US OF OUR SAVINGS!

RELEASE B. BLACK TAIN THAT MAN! DIAMOND! TRUE HOW THEM TWO HOMBRES CHILDISH! ROOKED FOOLED ME! CAN MEN US I DIDN'T GET...TAKING OUTTA KNOW WHAT OUR YOUR OWN WONE) THEY WUZ UP TO! HANDS! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, GET BACK THERE ANYWAY GIVE 'IM A CHANCE TO TELLHIS SIDE OF THE STORY!

AFTER HEARING THE OLD PROSPECTOR'S TALE ..

YOU'RE ALWAYS QUICK TO BLANE THE OTHER PELLOW! ACTUALLY ALL OF YOU ARE TO BLAME! IT WAS YOUR OWN GREED AND LUST FOR EASY RICHES THAT PRODDED YOU INTO BUYING THAT EQUIPMENT AT THOSE FANTASTIC PRICES! HANGING THIS MAN

WON'T BENEFIT THE BLACK DIAMOND'S BUIL REALIZING YOUR RIGHT! WERE AL MISTAKES WILL TAKEN FER SLICKERS, ANI WE ADMIT IT! WILKES WAS DOPED BY 'EM ALSO!





SAW THOSE FELLERS ACK DIAMOND! THIS IS A PRETTY GOOD DESCRIP-TION OF 'EM! I'LL ADDRESS THESE WIRES TO SHERIFFS OF THE TOWNS YUH WANT! RIGHT HERE, WE'LL OKAY! WITH GILA CALERO ... HWM LET'S SEE NOW ...

### A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER.

RLACK IT'S FROM THE SHERIFF IN CALERO! THAT'S ABOUT DIAMOND. SOME-60 MILES FROM HERE TWO MEN YOU DESCRIBE THING'S COMIN' ARRIVED HERE ... THIS MORNING! STOP! THEY'RE IN! GET BUYING ... EVERY PIECE OF .. THIS! MINING EQUIPMENT IN ALL RIGHT!



MAYBE WE CAN'T ARREST THEM ON ANY CHARGE ... BUT WE CAN ENUIGHT EN THE TOWNFOLK BEFORE THEY'RE THEM ON SWINDLED! IT'S BEGINNING TO GROW DARK, AND WE'VE GOT A LOT OF HARD RIDING TO DO!

HEY, HOLD ON! I GOT ANOTHER ANSWER FOR YUH! THIS ONE'S FROM COLBORO!

WHA. .4 WELL WHICH DIREC TION DO WE JUH. ALERO OR

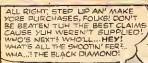


NO CHANGE, BUMPER! OUR BOY'S ARE IN CALERO...AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE HEADED BUT WE MAY BE ABLE TO ARREST THEM AFTER ALL! C'MON, THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!



WITHOUT REST, WITHOUT A MOMENTS HESITATION, THE TWO LAW ENFORCERS URGED THEIR HORSES TO EVEN GREATER STRIDES ACROSS THE STRETCH OF PLAIN BETWEEN STEED'S GAP AND CALERO! WHEN MORNING FINALLY

ARRIVED ... OH, OH! WELL, IT'S UP TO US TO PUT A TAKE A LOOK, DIAMOND! THEY DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME IN PULLIN' STOP TO IT THE SAME STUNT AGAIN! THE WHOLE TOWN'S GOLD CRAZY! SEFORE THESE PEOPLE GET SWINDLED! LET'S CROWD! THEY'RE BOUND TO LEAD US TO OUR MEN!



LISTEN TO ME ... EVERYBODY! THESE MEN ARE PULLING A HOAX! THERE'S NO GOLD STRIKE! SAME ROUTINE AT

HUH? WELL, THE BLACK DIAMOND'S WORD IS GOOD ENOUGH FER ME! LET'S SHOW THESE CROOKS HOW IN CALERO!



DON'T LISTEN TO 'M! NO!... NO! KEEP AWAY! BLACK DIAMOND, YO'RE HE'S RIGHT, BUMPER UP IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT! SACK, YOU A LAWMAN ... YUH GOTTA PROTECT US FROM THIS MEN ... GET BACK! MOB! WE AIN'T COM-MITTED ANY CRIME!

AS SEACK DIAMOND HELD THE ANGRYMOB AT BAY, BUMPER RAPIDLY BOUNDED TO THE DRIVER'S SEAT AND PROCEEDED TO LEAVE TOWN ...

DON'T KNOW WHAT'S THE AS WRONG AS MHY IM DOIN! DEA, DIAMOND GOT TO DO MY NEVER KNEW THIS! I'D MUCH RATHER TURN YOU TUH DUTY! MOB YOU TWO OVER PROTECT RULE 15 A THE MOB, AN CROOKS FLAGRANT BEFORE! VIOLATION OF LET YOU GET STICEAND WHAT DESERVE DECENCY! NOW RETURN TO YOUR HOMES!

OKAY, BLACK DIAMOND, WE'RE FAR ENOUGH FROM TOWN NOW! GUESS WE DON'T NEED YUH AS ESCORT ANY MORE! THANKS!

SORRY, GENTS, BUT WE DON'T PART COMPANY 50 SOON! BUMPER AND I INTEND TO

ESCORT YOU C., COLBORO? TWO ALLTHE WAY TO BUT WE AIN'T HEADED COLBORO! THERE. WE DON'T WANNA GO TUH COLBORO! HEY! WHAT'S THAT?

A WIRE I RECEIVED BEFORE WE LEFT STEEDS GAP! THE SHERIFF OF COLBORO RECOG-NIZED YOUR DESCRIPTIONS AS THE TWO MEN WHO DID A LITTLE CHEATING AT CARDS AND MURDERED A COUPLE OF MEN A FEW NIGHTS BACK! NOW, GRAB YOUR GUNS BETWEEN TWO FINGERS AND TOSS THEM INTO THE ROAD! THEN SIT BACK



REALIZING THE HEAVY PIDING AND WEARISONS JOURNEY IT REQUIRED FOR THE TWO LAWMEN TO CATCH UP WITH THEM, LUKE AND BART BIDED THEIR TIME UNTIL THE BROILING SUN AND EX-CESSIVE RIDING HAD TAKEN ITS TOLL OF BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER, AND THEN THEY LEADED INTO ACTION!

I GOT HIS ARMS PINNED, LLIKE! GRAB HIS GUN, AND GET THE BLACK DIAMOND! I GOT THE BLACK DIAMOND HOLD ONTO OLD WALRUS LIP! MINUTE! MHA HEY WHAT IN BLAZES

OVER HE GOES! GRAB THE REINS, BART WE'VE GOT TRAVELIN' TUH DO! WHEN BLACK DIAMOND'S BODY IS FOUND, TH' WHOLE COUNTRY'LL BE ON TH' LOOKOUT FER US ... BUT THAT'S BETTER'N HANGIN'



BUILT THE TWO OUTLAWS HADN'T RECKONED WITH THE TOUGH LEATHERY HIDE OF BUMPER! IN THEIR EXCITEMENT, THEY FAILED TO LOOK AROUND ... FOR HAD THEY DONE SO, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SURPRISED TO FIND HE HADN'T BEEN LEFT BATTERED ON THE TRAIL BEHIND ...

MISTAKE BY NOT TYIN! THOSE POLE
CATS UP! I'LL GET THOSE VARINTS
YET. AN! IF THEY'VE REALLY KILLED
DIAMOND I'LL TEAR 'EM APART WITH
MY BARE HANDS!



LIGHH! JUST A LITTLE MORE NOW AND I'LL BE READY FOR EM: HOW AM I GONNA TAKE EM. THOUGH ! I'M UNARMED AN' THEY'VE GOT BOTH OF MY GUNS!



MEANWHILE, BACK ALONG THE TRAIL, BLACK DIAMOND STOPS PLAYING POSSUM...

YOU STEPPED INTO THAT GOPHER HOLE JUST AT THE RIGHT SECOND, OLD BOY, OR THAT BULLET WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED ME! LET'S GO AND GET. WHY, BUMPER'S STILL CLINGING TO THE BACK OF THE WAGON! IF WE TRAIL THEM, THEY'LL SIGHT HIM! LET'S GO, BOY...I KNOW A SHORT CUT







HEY! WHAT'S WRO...**..UGGG!** BART! WHERE'D THAT ROCK COME FROM! THERE AIN'T NOBODY BACK THERE!



WELL, GOOD RIDDANCE! HE WUZ ALWAYS COMPLAININ' TOO MUCH ANY WAY! I KIN DO BETTER IF I



WH...WHAT HAPPENED? MY HEAD...WH... IT'S BLACK DIAMOND'S SIDEKICK! WHERE IN BLAZES DID HE SPRING FROM? PROPER THIS TIME!



BLACK DIAMOND, AND I'LL KILL YOU, TOO!

I WARNED MEET ANOTHER HEEL!

BLACK DIAMOND! B...BUT IT CAN'T BE! HE'S...HE'S DEAD! I SAW HIM FALL WHEN





HEY, WHAT HAPPENED WELL, WE'VE GOT AN APPOINT-MENT IN COLBORO! I DON'T THINK THESE TUH LUKE! BOYS'LL GIVE US ANY SCRAPEO MY KNUCKLES PRETD BAD! TROUBLE, FROM NOW

YES, I'LL BET!

ITHINK HE WENT LOCO! HE JUST KEPT HITTIN' ME IN THE FIST WITH HIS FACE...



# MOW! AND EVERY MONTH IN LEV GLEASON COMICS— THE FAMOUS

### LEV GLEASON TRADING CARDS

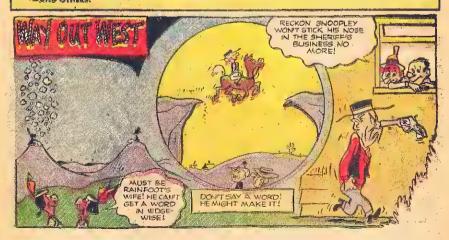
THIS SERIES IS FAMOUS FIGHTING PLANES. ADD THESE TO YOUR COLLECTION AND SEE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW FOR GETTING MORE CARDS.





FTU "CUTLASS" HAYY FIGHTER - ALSO ESCORT BOMBERS -

CUT OUT THE TWO RIGHTING PLANES ABOVE. PASTE THEM ON ANY CARBBOARD—AND YOU HAVE REGULAR TRADING CARDS—THE KIND THAT LEV GLEASON COMICS HAVE MADE SO POPULAR, TRADING CARDS ARE NOW PRINTED IN THE FOLLOWING LEV GLEASON COMICS: CRIME BOES NOT PAY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, BOY, DAREDEVIL AND BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN, LOOK FOR THESE MAGAZINES ON THE NEWSSTANDS, BUY THEM, THEY WILL HAVE MORE OF THE FIGHTING PLANE SERIES—AND OTHERS.





They raised 'cm rugged and tough back in the days when the west was young. A man had to be slow talking or fast on the draw, and it was dangerous to talk out-of-turn, even to a kid — Billy the Kid, for instance...he was only 12 the day he shot and killed the first of twenty-one victims for a fancied insult to his mother!

Outlaw Wess Harden had a violent career from early youth, and spent most of his days fleeing the law. Despite the fact that he had killed thirty-five men in his time, when the law finally caught up with him he was sentenced to only twenty-five years in prison. Harden came out after just sixteen years, studied law, and set up practice in Texas. He was shot through the back of the head one night by a badman named John Sellman, who was jealous because Harden had killed more men in his outlaw career than he, Sellman, had killed!

Another character with an itchy trigger-finger was Bill Longley, known to have shot dead almost as many men as Wess Harden. At last he was caught, tried, and sentenced to hang . . . but with the aid of some friends, Longley had an iron collar made for his neck, and a complicated arrangement of heavy rubber bands that lead from the iron collar, down through his clothes and under his insteps. The arrangement was supposed to break his fall, and prevent his neck from hreaking. So Bill Longley was "hanged", and weeping relatives claimed his body, placed it in a coffin, and made off with it. It has never been proved that Longley was still alive when they carried him away . . . on the other hand, no one has ever found his grave!

In the early 1900's the west tamed down . . . most of its outlaws had done each other in. or had met death at the hands of the law. But many lived on, peaceful citizens, and some even found their way to Hollywood to play the parts of badmen in early western movies!





## HEADLINES OF YESTERWEST

CHEROKEE BILL HANGED. NO. 13 JINX IN HIS LIFE COMES TO END.

The strange series of 13's surrounding the career of Crawford Goldsby alias "Cherokee Bill" was a favorite conversation topic among Westerners near the close of the last century. The fatal 13's first appeared on the horizon in 1895 when Cherokee had killed 13 men and a reward of \$1,300 had been offered for his capture — dead or alive. His 13th victim had heen accounted for after firing 13 shots on the 26th (twice 13) day of March, 1895. He was tried for murder in a trial which lasted 13 hours and the presiding Judge, Isaac C. Parker, took 13 minutes to charge the jury. That body of men found Cherokee guilty in exactly 13 minutes of deliberation. To top it all Cherokee Bill was hanged at Fort Smith, Arkansas, on April 13, 1896.

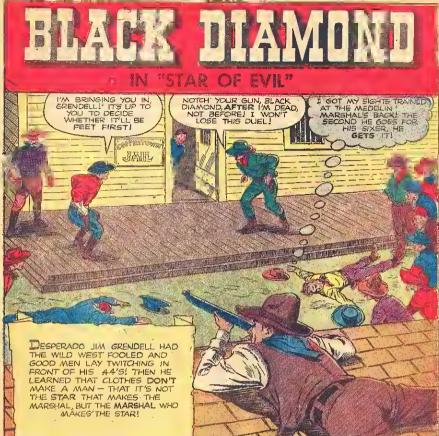
### COURT RULES DONKEY FINDER OF VALUABLE LEAD MINE.

In 1885 a unique case was presented to the U. S. District Court of Idaho in the form of a dispute over the ownership of a mine. O'Rourke and Kellogg, two grizzled prospectors in search of gold, had borrowed a donkey to help them carry provisions and equipment. While working the Idaho Hills near the town of what is now Kellogg, they missed the donkey. A search disclosed the animal standing on a rich outcropping of lead ore on the location of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan Mine. A dispute arose when the rightful owner of the animal claimed a share. Judge Norman Buck decided that the donkey was the official discoverer of the mine and awarded its owner a one-half interest.

### "OOFTY GOOFTY" FELLED BY MIGHTY JOHN L. SULLIVAN.

One of the most fantastic characters to delight audiences of the San Francisco Barhary Coast was a little man known only as "Oofty Goofty" He first discovered he was immune to pain when he was kicked out of a saloon onto a stone sidewalk. For 15 years after that he eked out a meager living by letting himself be hit for a price. For a dime a man could hit Oofty as hard as he pleased, and for 25c he could use a walking stick. A half dollar entitled the hitter to use a hat. "Oofty Goofty's" career came to an end when John L. Sullivan hit him with a hilliard stick and injured his hack.















LIKE IT OR NOT, IT'S
THE TRUTH! THERE'S A
MARSHAL WALKIN' AROUND
THIS TOWN WITH A STAR
ON HIS CHEST! HE'S GOT
TWO DEPUTIES WALKIN'ON
EITHER SIDE OF HIM
THAT'D KILL YUH 500N
AS LOOK AT YUH!



I AIN'T PRETENDIN' TO BE NOTHIN' BUT WHAT I AM! I'M A GAMBLER, AN' I RUN THIS SALOON! BUT

YOU MEAN

SALDON! IF I'M WRONG ABOUT THEM THREE, GRENDELL AN' HIS BLOOD-HOUNDS, BEIN' ANYTHIN' BUT HEMP BAIT, I NEVER PALMED



WHAT WOULD YUH CALL A TIN STAR WHO DOES NOTHIN BUT FRAME PEOPLE FROM HONEST

CITIZENS, TAKE BRIBES AN'

HE POKES HIS NOSE IN-TO EVERY CORNER, BUT NOT TO SERVE JUSTICE! TO

GUILTY MAN, USUALLY FRAMED, HE CAN GET OUT FOR A PRICE!





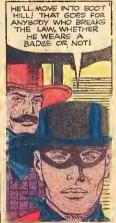








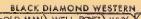




































OKAY BOYS, TIE HIM UP!
WE'RE TAKIN' HIM INTO
TOWN FER DENNISON'S MURDER! CRAG, YUH PULL OUT
ALL DENNISON'S STAKES!
PUT UP YORE 'OWN
CLAIM SIGNS! LEAVE IT TO ME, GRENDELL! WHEN IT COMES TO STEALIN' OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY, NOBODY HAS TO TEACH ME A THING!



A HALF HOUR LATER, ON THE

GENUINE PLEASURE TO MEET THE GREAT THEY DID THE KID KILL DENNISON WITH? HIM AND MEET THE GREAT
IN THE WEST!
WE JEST CAUGHT
A MURDERER!
HE BLASTED
OLD MAN
DENNISON! HIM NEAR THE MINE THEY'RE TRYING TO

LIE!

WHAT

OF GUN

GREETIN'S, BLACK DIAMOND! IT'S A

FINE! THEN YOU WON'T MIND HAND INCOME YOUR YOUR GUND SO I CAN COMPARE YOUR CARTRIDES WITH THE SLUGS WE TAKE OUT OF DENNISON! WHY...UH... HUNTIN'





I'LL DROP IN ON HIM NOW! TAKE MARHAL GRENDELL INTO TOWN BUMPER! SEE HIM SAFELY TO THERE'S ANOTHER
ONE IN THE GANG!
CRAG MILLER - AN
OLD CLAIM JUMPER!
HE'S EACK AT
MR. DENNISON'S
PROPERTY
CHANGIN' THE
CLAIM SIGNS
APPLIANT A JAHLHOUSE CELL! I'LL BE ALONG BEFORE EVENING! AROUND!











MOMENTS LATER.

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE BLACK DIAMOND ARRIVES IN TOWN AND LEARNS BY A TELEGRAM THAT GRENDELL IS AN IMPOSTER...















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